(c) Efforts have been made to start job-linked vocational courses in collaboration with various Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings. In the past three years these courses are running in collaboration with General Insurance Corporation, Life Insurance Corporation and Railway Board.

Ministry of Labour are running a network of 2240 Industrial Training Institutes/Centres to cater to the skilled manpower requirements of the country.

Neighbourhood school concept

4135. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the high fee structure and donation system of many private Schools and Colleges, if so what is the number of culprits caught and punished and preventive measures taken;

(b) whether Government have considered and implemented neighbourhood school concept on experimental basis anywhere if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether centralised admission system at national and zonal level for IITs and IIMS is objective and fruitful; if so, the reasons for not issuing guidance or directive, directly, through UGC or by any other suitable manner to universities to introduce centralised admission system for high education based on merits, at state and regional level, at least in the initial stage for higher technical education, and

(b) whether such a system would curb the evils of illegal donations and high fees?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) , (c) and (d) The Central Government has been taking persuasive and preventive measures to curb commercialisation of education. It has been urging upon the State Governments to take steps to prevent charging of capitation fees. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has been vested with statutory powers for the coordinated and integrated development of technical and professional education in the country and to prevent its commercialisation. Under the provisions of the Act all institutions of technical education, Government or private, will have to observe the norms, standards and guidelines prescribed by the AICTE in respect, *inter alia*, of fees, admissions, curriculum, etc. Some of the States where capitation fee had been prevalent—Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka and Maharashtra—have since passed State Acts to ban capitation fee. However, there is no legislation in Tamil Nadu banning capitation fee. As per the information from the State Governments capitation fee is being collected by private colleges under the guise of donations. The All India Council for Technical Education has laid down guidelines for admission to technical institutions on merit.

Under Section 26(1)(i) of the University Grants Commission Act, the Commission has the power to make regulations specifying the matters in respect of which fees may be charged.

The Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 1987 proposes to abolish capitation fees as presently charged by private medical colleges and would enable the Council to fix the ceiling of tuition fees and other charges.

School education is primarily the concern of the State Governments and UT Administrations and Education Acts/Rules of the State/UTs prohibit charging of capitation fees. Affiliation Bye Laws of the Central Board of Secondary Education also prohibit charging of capitation fee. Admissions to IITs, IIMs RECs and state engineering colleges are made through competitive entrance examinations. This has been quite objective and fruitful.

(b) The neighbourhood school plan has been viewed as an integral part of the Common School System by the various commissions and groups on school education. The National Policy on Education, 1986 called for taking effective measures in the direction of the Common School System. The policy also recommended establishment of a national system of education implying that up to a given level, all students irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex have access to education of a comparable quality. Maintenance of a broad commonality of standards in all the schools of the country has been sought to be achieved by the following ways:—

(i) Making available to all the schools, a broadly uniform pattern of syllabi/textbooks designed on the basis of National Curricular Framework for elementary, secondary and higher secondary education brought out by the N.C.E.R.T.

(ii) Requiring all the schools sending their students for Board Examinations to be affiliated to the concerned State Board, the CBSE or the Council for the Indian Schools Certificate Examinations, as the case may be and thereby to follow the syllabi/textbooks prescribed by the respective Board designed on the basis of the National Curricular Framework.

(iii) Improving the physical facilities and other educational inputs in schools through a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and programmes.

Decentralisation of CBSE and ICSE

4136. SHRI SYED SHBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Board of Secondary Education has been conducting some examinations every year;

(b) if so, the names of such examinations with the names of institutions brought under its purview;

(c) whether some other organisation viz. Indian Certificate School Examination has also been conducting some examinations in the country;

(d) if so, the names of examinations with names of the institutions brought under its purview;

(e) whether Government propose to ask these organisations to decentralise their set up; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) conducts the following Examinations every year:

(i) All India/Delhi Secondary school Examination (Class X)

(ii) All India Delhi Senior School Certificate Examination (Class XII)

Students studying in the schools affiliated to the CBSE all over the country, students of Patrachar Vidyalaya, Delhi and Private Girl candidates of Delhi are eligible to appear in the Examinations conducted by the Board.

CBSE also conducts the All India Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Entrance Examination for admission of students to various medical colleges throughout the country against the 15 per cent quota reserved for such students.

(c) and (d) The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) conducts the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (Class X) and the Indian School Certificate (Class XII) Examinations.

Students studying are eligible to appear in the Examination conducted by the CISCE.

(e) and (f) The CBSE has already decentralised its activities by setting up its Regional Offices at Delhi, Madras, Chandigarh, Ajmer, Ranchi and Guwahati. As per information received from the CISCE, it has no immediate plan